

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6618
BILL NUMBER: SB 284

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 28, 2011
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Teacher Contracts and Evaluations.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Kruse
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill changes definition of "teacher" to remove the requirement that the primary responsibility of a teacher must be instruction of students. It modifies teacher contract cancellation provisions. The bill changes definition of "evaluator", and provides that evaluation provisions apply only to teachers. (Under current law, the evaluation provisions apply to all certificated employees.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2012.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill changes the definition of "teacher" to included all certified staff. Currently, certified staff are split between certified staff whose primary duty is teaching in a classroom and staff, such as department heads or counselors, who do not spend a majority of time teaching in the classroom. The impact on local schools is probably minor.

The bill also changes the term "reduction in force" to "justifiable decrease in the number of teaching positions" as a reason for the cancellation of a contract. The provision should have no fiscal impact.

When a teacher appeals the cancellation of a contract to the school board, the board would consider that there is "substantial" instead of "a preponderance of" evidence supporting the cancellation of the contract. The provision might make it easier to cancel a teacher's contract.

The bill would require the notice of the cancellation of a superintendent's or principal's contract to be in writing and delivered by registered or certified mail. There could be some minor impact on postage costs.

The bill would clarify that an evaluator includes a teacher who has demonstrated a record of effective teaching under the current or prior system of evaluations. The provision should have no fiscal impact.

Background: For the 2011 school year, there were about 68,000 certified employees. This includes about 59,000 who were classified as teachers.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825.